

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/627,635

Applicant(s)

RICCI, CLAUDIO

Examiner

Travis R. Hunnings

Art Unit

2632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed 21 July 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 7, 8 and 11-30.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 21 July 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>5/20/05</u> | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 7, 8 and 11-30 are allowed.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to independent claims 7 and 15, the prior art does not disclose nor suggest a device or method for detecting the presence of a transponder in the vicinity of the device that counts the number of damped oscillations whose amplitude exceeds a preset threshold where said number of damped oscillations is lower when the transponder is in the vicinity of the antenna with respect to when the transponder is not present.

With regard to independent claims 21 and 24, the prior art does not disclose nor suggest a device or method for detecting the presence of a transponder in the vicinity of the device that generates a series of pulses and feeding said antenna with said pulses wherein the step of feeding said antenna with said pulses comprising varying the number of said pulses and/or the amplitude of said pulses and/or the duration of said pulses in order to obtain damped oscillations of said antenna having a constant amplitude in the absence of the transponder regardless of the type of antenna used and the environmental conditions present.

With regard to independent claims 25 and 26, the prior art does not disclose nor suggest a device or method for detecting the presence of a transponder in the vicinity of

the device that generates a series of pulses and feeding said antenna with said pulses wherein the step of feeding said antenna with said pulses comprising varying the number of said pulses and/or the amplitude of said pulses and/or the duration of said pulses in order to keep constant the number of damped oscillations of said antenna whose amplitude exceeds a preset threshold.

With regard to independent claims 27 and 28, the prior art does not disclose nor suggest a device or method for detecting the presence of a transponder in the vicinity of the device that determines the presence/absence of the transponder on the basis of the characteristics of the oscillations of the antenna by storing the average amplitude of said damped oscillations of the antenna detected over a given time interval and comparing the stored average amplitude with the detected instantaneous amplitude and detecting significant variations of said instantaneous amplitude that indicate the presence of the transponder.

With regard to independent claims 29 and 30, the prior art does not disclose nor suggest a device or method for detecting the presence of a transponder in the vicinity of the device that determines the presence/absence of the transponder on the basis of the characteristics of the oscillations of the antenna by storing the average number of said damped oscillations of the antenna detected over a given time interval and whose amplitude exceeds a preset threshold and comparing the stored average number of damped oscillations with the detected number of oscillations whose amplitude exceeds a preset threshold and detecting significant variations of said number of oscillations that indicate the presence of the transponder.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

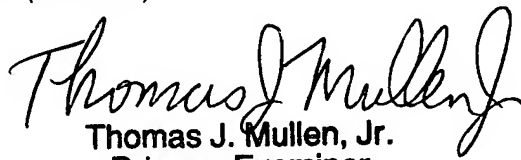
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Travis R. Hunnings whose telephone number is (571) 272-3118. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571) 272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TRH


Thomas J. Mullen, Jr.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2632
8-22-05